

new matter.

IN THE CLAIMS

The claims are reiterated for the convenience of the Examiner. Please amend the claims as follows:

B₂ 1. (Amended) [A] An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence encoding [an] the EGF-like domain of SEQ ID NO:4[, wherein the amino acid sequence has the binding characteristics of NRG3].

Cancel claims 2 and 3 without prejudice to later prosecution.

b₃ 4. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide binds to the ErbB4 receptor and [stimulates] activates tyrosine phosphorylation of the ErbB4 receptor.

Cancel claims 5-38 without prejudice to later prosecution.

REMARKS

Formal Matters

The specification is amended to claim priority to previous applications in this series. Support for the amendment is found in the attached copy of the corrected filing receipt for application Serial No. 08/899,437. Further amendment to the specification corrects a typographical error of an author's name and a journal name, finding support in the June 9, 1998 IDS, item 6, and the paper copy of the reference submitted in the parent application. Additional amendment to the specification corrects the address of the ATCC. No new matter is added by the amendments to the specification.

Claims 1 and 4 are pending in the application. Claims 2, 3, and 5-38 are canceled without prejudice to later prosecution. Prosecution and allowance of claims 1 and 4 is pursued following allowance of claims 5-11 in the parent application Serial No. 08/899,437.

Amendments to the claims are made to recite an isolated polypeptide, amino acid sequences, activation of receptor tyrosine phosphorylation. The amendments are made merely to expedite prosecution by incorporating amendments made in the parent application. Applicants' traversal of rejections in the parent application are of record in that case and are herein incorporated by reference. As indicated in the parent case, support for the amendments is found throughout the specification,